

1357
Annexure of.
Photocopies of File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. III
Total nos. of Pages: 14

गोपनीय
~~TOP~~ SECRET

विदेश मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(एन० जी० ओ० अनुभाग)
(N. G. O. SECTION)

Annexure of

फाइल नं० 25/4/NGO - Vol. III
File No.

(Photocopies)

विषय : (कृपया इस आवरण को उलटें)
(Subject : Please Turn Over)

VN
30.1.08

कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On
DECLASSIFIED					
VSN 30.1.08					
(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी) (ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE) संयुक्त सचिव (सी.एन.ओ.) Joint Secretary (CNV) विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली Ministry of External Affairs New Delhi					
Keep 28/2/15					
S.No Pages - Corr. (1-14) Total 14					
NATIONAL ARCHIVE					

~~SECRET~~

Routine Papers

File No. 25/4/NGO-51.

Annexure II

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

(2)

US (E) desired to see the file pertaining to the Committee to enquire into death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. Our file No. 25(4)/NGO (Vols I and II) is placed below.

23.8.57

23/8
US(EA)(Returned
4 cc(EA)
on 27/8/57)

Draft Letter
Memorandum
Telegram

File No.

1. Date of despatch

No. F.25/4/NGO

Dated

Septr., 1957

2. List of enclosures

To

Shri Kyoei Mochizuki,
Priest of Renkoji Temple,
130, 2-Chome,
Koenji,
Suginami-ku,
TOKYO

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of
dated 1st July, 1957
your letter addressed to the Prime Minister of
India regarding the ashes of the late Subhas Chandra
Bose.

Yours faithfully,

(J. S. Mehta)
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

Copy with a copy of the letter referred to
forwarded to the Embassy of India, Tokyo.

Deputy Secretary.

(4)

Discussed with Director -EA.

2. As long as there are some people who genuinely believe that these ashes are not those of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose it would be improper and inadvisable for us to take charge of them. At the same time, the fact that the Rankoji Temple and this particular priest have so devotedly looked after the urn containing the ashes and Netaji's other belongings for all these years shows their great affection and loyalty towards our country and the memory of a great national hero. Such devotion deserves some recognition from us. Without in any way committing ourselves to the identity of the ashes, we could recompense the Priest and the Temple by some annual grant which would be for the custody of these ashes but as a reward for their longstanding loyalty to India. ^{show} While ~~was~~ formally the purpose of the grant would be in recognition of their services to our country, ^{in fact,} ~~in effect,~~ it would serve as some sort of compensation for the trouble they are taking in looking after the urn containing the ashes. A payment for the custody of the urn itself would be open to many objections but by thus expressing our gratitude in tangible terms, we would earn the appreciation of the Priest and the Temple and would also ensure that the urn and other Indian property now lying in the Temple would be properly looked after.
3. An annual payment of Rs. 5,000 seems to be sufficient for this purpose. We could, in the first instance, sanction it as a grant for 1967 and get it renewed every year.
4. In view of the political importance of the subject, we think there would be ~~an~~ no difficulty in finding the funds for this purpose. It would be most unhappy development if due to some default on the part of these custodians of the urn or the Temple authorities some damage is done to this urn or its contents and it is later on confirmed that the ashes are those of Netaji Bose. This annual expenditure will not be too much to pay in order to ensure their safety. Even if it finally transpires that the ashes are not genuine, still this amount would, in any way, be an excessive compensation for the Priest's general ⁱⁿendlessness towards India as shown in the devotion with which ~~has~~ looked after the Urn and other property of Netaji. However

we do not know which Minist. ⁽⁵⁾ could be able to provide funds for such a purpose. The Ministry of Education, Cultural Department, might have some funds for the encouragement of friendship of India with other countries through cultural media, either directly or through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. Since such a gesture would definitely be conducive towards promoting Indo-Japanese friendship, we could request ~~that~~ that Ministry to let us know whether they could spare some funds for this purpose. Another source would be the Ministry of Finance ~~[which might have some funds for this purpose]~~. We shall be very grateful if [the] Director (Finance) could kindly examine this suggestion and indicate whether it would be possible for us to get some funds from our own Ministry.

(A. K. Damodaran).
Dy. Secretary.

Director - Finance.

Draft
14.11.66

Discussed with Director - EA.

2. As long as there are some people who genuinely believe that these ashes are not those of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, it would be improper and inadvisable for us to take charge of them. At the same time, the fact that Rankoji Temple and the particular priest have so devotedly looked after the urn containing the ashes and Netaji's ^{other} belongings for all these years shows their great affection and loyalty towards our country ^{and the memory of a great nation hero}. Such devotion deserves some recognition from us. Without in any way committing ourselves to the identity of the ashes, we could recompense the Priest and the Temple by some annual grant which would not be for the custody of these ashes but as a reward for their long-standing loyalty to India. While thus formally the purpose of the grant would be in recognition of their services to our country, in effect, it would ~~also~~ serve as some sort of compensation for the trouble they ^{are} ~~were~~ taking in looking after this ^{the unclaiming ashes} Indian property. ~~XX~~

3. ^{An annual payment seems to} ~~* sum~~ of Rs. 5,000 ~~would~~ be sufficient for this purpose. We could, in the first instance, sanction it as a grant for 1967 and get it renewed every year.

4. In view of the political importance of the subject, we do ^{note} ~~not think~~ there would be any difficulty in finding the funds for this purpose. We shall be grateful if Director (Finance) could kindly indicate whether it would be possible for us to get some funds from our Ministry or whether we will have to approach the Ministry of Finance of Education for such a grant.

(A. K. Damodaran).
14.xii.66.

Dir. (Fin.).

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE

Draft ^{Letter}
^{Memorandum}
^{Telegram}SECRET

File No.

Serial No.

⑦

1. Date of despatch

No.

Dated

2. List of enclosures

My dear

You are probably aware that Prime Minister had discussions with the Ambassador, while the latter was recently in Delhi, regarding the need for an enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Shri Subash Chandra Bose.

2. The Prime Minister has carefully considered the matter and has decided that the Ambassador should approach the Japanese Government informally and put it to them that, in view of a great deal of misapprehension here and some mystery surrounding Shri Subash Chandra Bose's death, we consider it desirable to have an enquiry into the circumstances. Naturally we can only do this with the approval and assistance of the Japanese Government. If they are agreeable to this then we shall send a small deputation, probably consisting of a team of three persons who will place themselves at the disposal of the Japanese Government and conduct an enquiry in Japan in cooperation with the Japanese Government. We hope that the Japanese Government will be good enough to give them full assistance in this matter. This is all that need be said to the Japanese Government at this stage.

3. While this deputation is in Japan, a member of the Embassy will have to be associated with it but he ^{is} will not be ^a member of the ^{deputation}.

4. One other important point has to be borne in mind. It is possible that questions may arise about the so-called treasure of Shri Subash Chandra Bose. Some of the Indian merchants in Japan have raised this question from time to time. The Prime Minister does not consider that we should mix up this matter with the other enquiry. The team we send would not go into ^{it} ~~this~~ question. If any facts come to our notice and the Japanese Government helps we may take this up later.

5. ~~Unfortunately, we were unable to contact the Ambassador to inform him of the gist of the note recorded by the Prime Minister before he left for Calcutta~~ but the Prime Minister saw the Ambassador in ^{Calcutta} ~~Tokyo~~ and discussed this whole question with him, so he will probably have approached the Japanese Government informally on the above lines. We would, however, be grateful for an early indication of the Japanese Government's reaction.

Yours

(S.K. ROY)

Shri A.K. Dar,
Embassy of India in Japan,
TOKYO.

No. 274.
LOK SABHA.

(Advance List)

SHRI KAMATH

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to his reply given to supplementaries asked on Short Notice Questions Nos. 13 and 14 on the 29th September, 1955 and state:

(a) Whether the Government of Japan has been approached and consulted about the necessity and desirability for an inquiry into the circumstances attending the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and into the identity of the ashes kept in Renkoji Temple near Tokyo;

(b) Whether an Indian Commission or a Joint Indo-Japanese Commission has been or will shortly be constituted to conduct the aforesaid inquiry; and

(c) if so, the personnel of such commission and its terms of reference?

SHRI

A, b & c.

The Government of India have decided to send a team of three persons to Japan to inquire into the circumstances of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's death and determine whether the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple are really the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. The desire to hold an inquiry has been conveyed to the Japanese Government who have fully approved the proposal and have informed us that they will be glad to cooperate in every way.

The composition of the Enquiry Committee is still under consideration but it is proposed to include in it a member of the Bose family.

QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA

(9)

DSCE)

10/11/55
FBI

Starred/Unstarred D. No.

~~XXXXXX~~

Notice was received on the

29/4

12.11.55

Notice of admission to be sent out on the

18.11.55

Ministry to which the day has been allotted

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The question will, if admitted, be put down for the sitting on the :—

24.11.55

* SHRI KAMATH: Will the Prime Minister be

pleased to refer to his reply given to supplementaries asked on Short Notice Questions Nos. 13 and 14 on the 29th September, 1955 and state:

- (a) whether the Government of Japan has been approached and consulted about the necessity and desirability for an inquiry into the circumstances attending the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and into the identity of the ashes kept in Renkoji Temple near Tokyo;
- (b) whether an Indian Commission or a joint Indo-Japanese Commission has been or will shortly be constituted to conduct the aforesaid inquiry; and
- (c) if so, the personnel of such Commission and its terms of reference ?

See file

ad-
11

25/11/55
Asst. Secy. to Govt. of India
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

11.2.57
Ministry of External Affairs (E.A. Section)

(10)

A copy, each, of the 'Majhi Inquiry Committee Report' (main report) and report by Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, placed below may be passed on to N.G.O. Section for their record.

H.K. Talwar

16.1.57

19

NGO

now
14

D. 5509-FEA/55.

Prime Minister has decided that a Committee be appointed which would visit Japan and other places - Malaya, Saigon, Bangkok etc - to investigate into the correctness of the story about the death of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose. The Committee would stay in Delhi for one week prior to their departure to study all the file from the year 1945 to date, which could be helpful to their purpose. FEA Section are collecting all relevant files, which are not Top Secret, NGO Section may kindly collect the Top Secret files and put these up to US (FEA)/ DS (E).

1. 6

H.K.

6.1.56

5.6.56

US (FEA)

NGO

The following files about the death of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose are placed below:-

1. F.25(4)-NGO (Volumes I & II),
2. F.25(13) NGO, &
3. F.25(14) NGO.

DS(E) may see and kindly ^{decide} advise whether these NGO files may be made available for perusal to the proposed Committee in question. DS(E)'s attention is invited to "A" at SI(29A).

9/11/56.

DS(E)

There will be decided later when the Committee actually meets here. Meanwhile I do not think this file has all the papers on the subject - there must be others in FEA. Please put them together and resubmit.

A. Kidwai

FEA section may see and kindly put up their collection of files on the subject to DS(E) through NGO. The NGO files have been removed the time being.

these files are returned herewith

Notes overleaf.

All the files, which we could get, were submitted to D.S.(E) on 9.1.56. Some files, which are not available in the Records, are being traced. SEA, EMI and Lur Sections, to whom those files belonged, have been requested to let us have them.

H.K. J. J.
13.1.56

The NGO files Nos. 25 (4), (13) & (14) are placed below.

DS(E) may kindly see.

DS(E) saw the NGO files after he wrote his note of 9.1.56. A. being then he called for them again.

As verbally directed by D.S.(E)

DS(E), the NGO files Nos. 25(4), (13) + (14) are placed below.

11/1/56.

DS(E)

The background of the INA treasure as well as the sum of Rs.265/10/- is outlined in Mr. Sathe's note of the 1st November 1951 and the ILM's letter of the 20th October 1951 at SIs(43A) and (40A-B) respectively.

12

/193 & 196.

Flag B

SIs(143A),(146A),
(155A),(159A),
(221A),(222A)&

M/226.

2. The 'treasure' has been kept in the National Museum. The sum of Rs.265/10/- was transferred by the Embassy of India Tokyo, by its remittance to India through Government account, as a special case, and was subsequently passed on to the INA Relief Fund through AICC. The AICC have given a receipt for it. The note at M.218 (Flag H) may kindly be seen.

17/4/56.

17/

DS(12)

DSW
29/

Ministry of External Affairs.

13

I think N.G.O. has some papers about this.

Sd/- A.J. Kidwai,
2-7-55.

Reference above. A resume' of Shri S.A. Ayer's Report on aircrash of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha for the meeting held on 5th March 1952 ^{in reply to Qn No 334.} Attention is invited to portions side-lined at slip 'S' regarding the "ashes".

Paras. 2 and 3 of D.O. dated 23-6-54, from our Ambassador in Tokyo at slip 'J' and Min. 193 at slip 'R' may also please be seen in this connection.

ANS
4-7-55

As regards part (a) of the question, we may reply inviting attention to the PM's reply to Question No 334 on the 5th March 1952 and to the resume of the Report of Shri S.A. Ayer placed on the table of the House on that day.

As regards (b), (c) & (d) the position is that ~~the Govt~~ ^{the Govt} have been unable to do anything in the matter in view of

(i) the attitude of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's family about the question of his death in the accident; &

(ii) the opinion ~~of~~ in Bengal which does not accept the fact of Netaji's death & therefore, of the genuineness of the ashes.

For orders regarding the nature of the reply that may be given.

AS (E)

Thanks. The question has been taken up in an FFA branch file.

Approved

O/J

N.G.O.

Min 193

Slip R

210-A

Slip J

QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA

Stat. d/10/11/55 No.

Notice was received on the

Notice of admission to be sent out on the

Ministry to which the day has been allotted

The question will, if admitted, be put down for the sitting on the :—

3047

13.6.55

7.9.55

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

13.9.55

U.S.(FEA)

FEA:

1/5

14

DS(E)

Prime

* SHRI S.C.SAMANTA: Will the Minister be pleased

to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose are lying in custody of the priest of Renkoji temple in Tokyo since September 1945;

(b) if so, whether the Government of India will take charge of those ashes and erect a suitable memorial in the name of Netaji;

(c) whether any attempt was made in the matter before ; and

(d) if so, what was the difficulty in the way ?

I think N. G. O. has some
papers about this.

A. G. S. S. S. S.
y

N. G. O.